

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:720

ANSWERED ON:21.11.2007

CONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGE OVER BRAHMAPUTRA

Sarma Dr. Arun Kumar

Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has taken up the implementation of the construction of a Bridge over Brahmaputra between Dhola and Sadia in pursuant to the review meeting held on September 14, 2007 chaired by Hon'ble Minister for DONER;

(b) if so, the details of the present status thereof including the response received from the concerned Ministries and State Governments; and

(c) the action initiated by the Union Government for execution of these projects during the Eleventh Plan Period based on the response received so far?

Answer

MINISTER, MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION(SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) The Ministry of Power had informed in the review meeting held on the 14th September 2007, that the proposal for the construction of a bridge over the Brahmaputra River between Dhola and Sadia is part of the DPR for the Dibang Multipurpose Hydro-electric Project. As a follow up to the review meeting, the Ministry of Power was requested on 31st October, 2007 to take up with the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) the approval of the project with the option of the construction of a bridge over the Lohit Channel between Dhola and Sadia. The Ministry of Power was also requested to consider implementing the project in the PPP mode, financed through a Special Purpose Vehicle. The Feasibility Report forwarded by the State Government of Arunachal Pradesh was also sent to the Planning Commission on 31st October 2007 with the request to allocate sufficient funds for the North Eastern Council for the 11th Five Year Plan, keeping in view the fund requirement of this project.

(b) & (c) The Ministry of Power have informed the Ministry of DONER that the DPR for the Dibang Multipurpose Hydro-electric project, including the construction of a bridge over the Lohit channel between Dhola and Sadia, has been submitted by NHPC to CEA for its concurrence. The concurrence of CEA has not been received so far. Meanwhile, discussions are continuing with stakeholders under the aegis of the State Government to consider sharing of costs of the construction of the bridge which will benefit not only the proposed multipurpose project but also several other private, public and PPP sector projects being developed in and around the Dibang valley. The Planning Commission have informed the Ministry of DONER that so far no decision has been taken for funding of the project.